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Mike Wallace lied, says Westy witness

J - By LARRY NATHANSON
 THE CIA's former Viet-
 nam expert angrily ac-
 cused CBS correspondent
 Mike Wallace of a "lie" in
 Manhattan Federal
 Court yesterday.

A The witness, George
 Carver, a private consult-
 ant, sparked the first out-
 burst of the six-week trial
 when he angrily denied
 statements attributed to
 him in connection with
 the CBS documentary, "A
 Vietnam Deception: the
 Uncounted Enemy."

Vietnam commander
 Gen. William Westmore-
 land is suing CBS, charg-
 ing the network was
 guilty of libel when it ac-
 cused him of putting a
 phony "ceiling" on enemy
 troop estimates in order
 to convince Washington
 that the U.S. was winning
 "a war of attrition" in
 Vietnam.

On his third day on the
 stand as a witness for
 Westmoreland, Carver
 listened to the reading of
 a statement Wallace had
 made on the program.

"General Westmore-
 land had now won the in-
 telligence war, and in-
 stead of telling President
 Johnson, Congress and
 the American public that
 the enemy had an army
 of 500,000, he told them it
 was 248,000 and that the



Post Photo by Jim Estrin

Gen. Westmoreland and wife Kath- erine leaving Federal Court.

enemy was running out
 of men."

The mild-appearing
 witness erupted in anger:
 "That statement is a lie!"

Within the space of a
 few minutes, Carver had
 responded:

"I did not . . . abso-
 lutely not . . . not quite,"
 when asked to confirm
 whether he had made
 certain verbal state-
 ments to the show's pro-
 ducer, George Crile, who
 also is a defendant, and

others.

Those statements were
 not read in court.

Carver testified that it
 would have been "virtu-
 ally impossible" for Gen.
 Westmoreland to have
 concealed reports of
 enemy infiltration in
 Vietnam in 1967.

The network also said
 the enemy forces were
 being bolstered by 25,000
 infiltrators a month be-
 fore the Tet offensive in
 January, 1968. * * *